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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 25 Oct. 1949

**SUBJECT** Newspapers in Shantung

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1. The Ta Min Pao continued publication for about three weeks after the Chinese Communist occupation of Tsingtao on 2 June 1949, and then its presses were sealed and confiscated. All other Tsingtao newspapers closed down at the time of the occupation.
2. For newspapers now published in Tsingtao a committee of Communists make up the editorial staff, no one person being designated as editor in any case. No members of the staffs of former newspapers are known to be working now. The editorial committee is answerable to the Publicity Bureau of the Military Control Commission. This Bureau is the only organ which gives out news from Tsingtao, and it approves all news printed there. The editorial policies of newspapers is also dictated by this Bureau.
3. The building on Shanghai Road in Tsingtao which was formerly used to publish the English-language People's Herald and the Jen Min Pao is occupied by the Communists. Here they publish the Chiao Tung Jih Pao, which was called Ta Chung Jih Pao for the first week of publication. This is the official party publication and carries all official public notices of laws and regulations of the Tsingtao municipal government.
4. The Chiao Tung Jih Pao varies from four to eight pages and is a full-size newspaper. The staff numbers approximately 100 and its circulation is from 60,000 to 80,000 daily. At the time the Communists entered Tsingtao trucks containing large quantities of newsprint were seen depositing their loads at the building now used to publish the Chiao Tung Jih Pao.
5. The Tsingtao Kung Jen (Tsingtao Working Man) is the only other paper now published in Tsingtao. The name was changed from Chun Li Pao (Light of the People) on 2 October, at which time it changed from four to eight half-size pages. Obviously published for the laboring class, its language is very simple. The offices and plant are in the industrial section of the city. Although it is influenced by labor groups it is a party organ.
6. At present there is an intense subscription campaign to get copies of the Tsingtao Kung Jen into the hands of every worker; so far about 2,000 copies are sold each day in the areas where workers live and to which circulation

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7. The Tsinan Chinese Communist Party (CCP) newspaper is the Ta Chung Jih Pao, a full-size daily, of which the circulation in Tsingtao is 8,000 daily, according to the local post office estimate. It is popular in Tsingtao because it brings news of all Shantung, while local papers have only news and official notices relating to Tsingtao.
8. The Tientsin CCP newspaper, the Tientsin Jih Pao, is subscribed to by about 50 bankers and merchants in Tsingtao.
9. The following Shanghai independent newspapers have sales agencies in Tsingtao:
  - a. Ta Kung Pao, with a circulation in Tsingtao and Tsinan of about 80, and popular with intellectuals such as the faculty of Shantung University.
  - b. Hsin Wen Jih Pao, with a circulation in Shantung of about 60, and popular with the general public because of its many pictures.
10. The daily news release from Peiping of the New China News Agency in English has a circulation of about 50 in Tsingtao.